A3275-2 2/14/83

TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

Office of Information
and Public Affairs
1920 L Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20036
(202) 835-9555

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, February 10, 1983 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended February 5 totaled an estimated 14.9 billion ton-miles, 4.4 percent below the corresponding week a year ago, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 5 weeks of 1983 was an estimated 74.0 billion ton-miles, 2.3 percent below the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended February 5 totaled 343,271 cars, 7.4 percent below 1982, but 0.7 percent higher than the preceding week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were down 10.7 percent in the East, 5.9 percent in the South and 6.1 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1982, 16 of the 21 commodity groups were down. However, loadings of lumber and wood products registered a 22.9 percent gain and motor vehicle and equipment loadings were up 40.1 percent. Eleven of the 21 groups were up from the preceding week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended January 29 totaled 42,338 cars, up 16.0 percent from the corresponding week of 1982 and 70,993 trailers and/or containers, 8.5 percent higher than last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first four weeks of the year was 153,314 cars, 16.8 percent higher than last year, and 260,538 trailers and/or containers, up 10.1 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 2/5/83:

	Loadings in Week ended February 5, 1983		Change from Corresponding Week 1982			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	24,716	D	389	1.5	I	353	1.4
Other farm products	4,268	I	408	10.6	D	686	13.8
Metallic ores	9,440	D	9,118	49.1	D	1,220	11.4
Coal	95,633	D	11,639	10.8	D	73	0.1
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	7,429	D	1,238	14.3	I	563	8.2
Nonmetallic minerals	10,471	D	325	3.0	D	275	2.6
Grain mill products	12,086	D	1,971	14.0	D	321	2.6
Food and kindred products	13,200	D	1,610	10.9	I	739	5.9
Primary forest products	14,348	D	1,990	12.2	D	101	0.7
Lumber and wood products except furniture	6,947	I	1,295	22.9	D	400	5.4
Pulp, paper and allied products	15,632	D	2,688	14.7	I	407	2.7
Chemicals and allied products	23,080	I	132	0.6	I	631	2.8
Petroleum products	4,162	D	784	15.9	D	586	12.3
Stone, clay and glass products	8,855	D	826	8.5	I	252	2.9
Coke	4,274	D	601	12.3	I	224	5.5
Metals and products	8,845	D	3,142	26.2	I	1,364	18.2
Motor vehicles and equipment	15,378	I	4,400	40.1	D	158	1.0
Waste and scrap materials	7,093	D	2,015	22.1	I	276	4.0
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	8,990	D	228	2.5	I	257	2.9
All other carloads	48,216	I	6,426	15.4	I	1,096	2.3
LCL traffic	208	D	1,426	87.3	D	12	5.5
Total Cars Loaded	343,271	D	27,329	7.4	I	2,330	0.7
Corresponding week of 1982	370,600						

	1983	1982	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (5 weeks)	1,682,171	1,798,414	D 6.5
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
4 Weeks ended January 29	59.1	60.2	D 1.8
Week ended February 5	14.9	15.5	D 4.4
5 weeks cumulative	74.0	75.7	D 2.3

AARt-021083